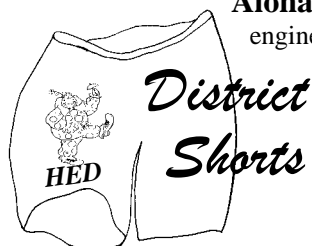


**Music:** *Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.*  
—Victor Marie Hugo, French author, 1802-85



**Aloha means Goodbye** to electronics engineer **Kit Lee, IM**, who left HED

June 16 following 15 years in the Division and District for a position with GSA (General Services Administration).

**Aloha means Goodbye** to

chemist **Don Schlack, EC-**

E, leaving for FED to become chief of the environmental section. Schlack said that he and his wife, Young Sook, recently adopted their 15-month-old daughter, Nicole, from Korea, have been working to obtain U.S. citizenship for her and are delighted to be going to Korea as a family. Young Sook recently received a degree, also in chemistry, from the Univ. of Hawaii.

**Aloha means Welcome Back** to **Richard Okamoto**, chief of Quality Assurance Branch, Engineering and Construction Division. He returned recently after a three-year tour in a similar position at JED.

**Aloha means Welcome Back** to **Florence Nii, CT**, chief of Construction and Architect-Engineer Contracts Branch. She returned June 5 from a 3-year assignment in JED where she was chief of Contracts Branch.

**Aloha means Welcome Back** to **Olson Okada**, a civil engineer with the Tripler team at the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He returned June 19 from a 5-year assignment in FED where he was chief of the Civil and Specifications Section in Design Branch.

**Aloha means Welcome Back** to **Macky Catania**, a construction representative with the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He re-turned June 30 from JED, where he was a construction representative at Yokota Air Base for more than seven years.

**Aloha means Hello** to **Esther Cruz, RE**, a realty specialist. She transferred to HED on July 3 from a management assistant position with the Community Homefinding, Relocation and Referral Services (CHRRS) office in Honolulu.

**Aloha means Hello** to **Douglas MaKitten, PA**, District public affairs officer. He transferred June 5 from a similar position in San Francisco District and formerly was with JED.

**Aloha means Hello** to **Stephen Mora**, a construction representative in the Fort Shafter Resident Office. He joined the District from private industry.



***Congratulations** to hydraulic engineer **Sharon Ishikawa, PP-C**, and her husband **Mike** on the birth of their daughter **Kayla**, May 14. **Kayla** came into this world weighing exactly 8 lbs, and was 19 1/2 inches in length. Photo courtesy Sharon Ishikawa.*

## Elsie Smith Honored

**L**ong-time POD and HED employee Elsie Smith was presented the Superior Civilian Service Award by Lt. Col. Wally Walters on June 28. The ceremony, attended by her family, PAO staff members, friends, and Lt. Col. Ronald Light, took place at Honolulu's Island Nursing Home, where Elsie is under care. She has been on convalescent leave since January, 1999.

Elsie was honored for her 58 years of outstanding federal service. She has been a Corps of Engineers employee since 1957 and has worked in a variety of public affairs positions since 1962.

In his comments during the presentation, Walters told how the "best day" of his District command was the day he spent in conversation with Elsie. He also noted Elsie's many achievements, including her selection (twice) as Hawaii's Outstanding Federal Woman of the year and unstinting efforts to further the POD and HED public affairs programs.

## Printing part of modern 'miracle'—increased quality with decreased cost

*Story by Alexander Kufel*

**R**ecent efforts to improve the print quality of *The Pacific Connection* revealed that a quiet revolution has been taking place within traditional means of communications in addition to the areas of World Wide Web sites, interactive television and electronic books. To be sure, it involves the computer, but the big change is that labor-intensive methods of preparing a document for printing have been supplanted by a digital process that takes bits and bytes from a computer disk and transfers them directly to a film negative. Gone are the days of providing the print shop with "camera-ready" type which was then copied onto photo film, placed into paper matrices, combined with half-toned photographs, and other artwork on its way to being "burned" with high intensity light onto a plate for the printing press.

Claire Terada, the customer service representative at the Pearl Harbor DAPS (Document Automation and Production Service, for-

merly Defense Automated Printing Services) said that the net result is a very high quality product with both cost and time benefits.

"Submitting a formatted newspaper to us on a 100 megabyte computer Zip-disk results in a finished product that is cheaper and quicker," said Terada. "And the quality is noticeably improved, especially the photos," she said.

Terada also said that another aspect of current technology is that services that were unheard of a few years ago are now within everyone's reach. She said that these include electronic ordering; document scanning and conversion; CD-ROM and "floppy disk" printing and duplication; high-speed color copying, and 24-hour turnaround times on some jobs. She said that in order to service their customers better, DAPS offers pick-up and delivery service and has extended its business hours until 11 p.m. weekdays. DAPS has an Internet site at: [www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil](http://www.hawaii.wnbt.daps.mil).